

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	David H. ASHER et al.	§	Anticipated	
		§	Group Art Unit:	2184
Serial No.:	Not Yet Assigned	§		
		§	Anticipated	
Filed:	Concurrently Herewith	§	Examiner:	Scott T. Baderman
		§		
For:	Method And System For	§	Docket No.:	200301840-2
	Absorbing Defects In	§		
	High Performance	§		
	Microprocessor With A	§		
	Large N-Way Set	§		
	Associative Cache	§		

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: October 21, 2003

Sir:

This amendment is filed with the original specification for U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/651,948. Also attached is a substitute specification incorporating the following amendments expressed relative to the original specification. **Please accept the substitute specification with these amendments before calculating the fees due in the present filing.**

The present application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/651,948. In the parent application, the examiner issued an office action (dated May 29, 2003) rejecting some claims and indicating that other claims were allowable. The applicants accepted the allowable claims to expedite issuance of a patent. Included in this preliminary amendment are applicants' arguments to obviate similar rejections from the examiner.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 5 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this paper.